

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING
NETWORK DATA CONGESTION**

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method, apparatus and network device for
controlling the flow of network data arranged in frames
and minimizing congestion, such as in the receive port
5 of an HDLC controller is disclosed. A status error
indicator is generated within a receive FIFO memory
indicative of a frame overflow within the receive FIFO
memory. In response to the status error indicator, an
early congestion interrupt is generated to a host
10 processor indicative that a frame overflow has occurred
within the receive FIFO memory. The incoming frame is
discarded and the services of received frames are
enhanced by one of either increasing the number of
words of a direct memory access (DMA) unit burst size,
15 or modifying the time-slice of other active processes.